

MINUTES OF COUNCIL WORK SESSION
2010

JANUARY 19,

Present: Vice-Mayor Washington, Councilors Barr, Brewer, Cornell, Toney

Absent: Mayor Yohey, Councilor West

Others Present: Kim Alexander, Kristi Caturano, Chief Johnson, Cathy Holtzlander, Julius Johnson, Yolanda Hipski, John Webb, Retta Ladd and seven citizens

Absent: Donna Johnson

Vice-Mayor Washington called the work session to order at 7:50 PM.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Boards & Commission/Committee/Staff/Town Attorney Reports

- a. Architectural Review Board – Ms. Hipski stated there have been no meetings.
- b. Planning Commission – Mr. John Webb stated there have been no meetings.
- c. Board of Zoning Appeals – Ms. Hipski stated there have been no meetings.
- d. Historic Dumfries – No one present from HDV.
- e. Treasurer's Report – Mrs. Ladd stated the Treasurer's Report was provided in the Council packets and she stands prepared to answer any questions Council may have.

Mr. Toney asked the Treasurer if there were any trends that she has noticed that Council needs to be aware of in terms of spending.

Mrs. Ladd stated the expenditure side has already been addressed, as far as paying just the basic monthly expenditures and that is what has to continue, just watching the expenditures. Mrs. Ladd stated the revenue increase in December of course was the real estate tax collection.

Mr. Toney had a question regarding the document showing the projected revenue and expenditures through August. Mrs. Ladd advised Mr. Toney that document was provided by the Town Manager.

Ms. Alexander stated she will go over that document real quickly. Ms. Alexander stated the first page was done today (January 2010) and the second page was done in December 2009. Ms. Alexander stated they can see the town is already in much better shape and as the months go on there

will be more accurate numbers to work with as far as average revenue and expenditures.

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AGENDA ITEMS (cont)

1. Boards & Commission/Committee/Staff/Town Attorney Reports - (cont)

- e. Treasurer's Report (cont) - Ms. Alexander stated there was concern in mid-December that by April the town would have a deficit of over \$40,000, but expenditures have seriously been cut back and the town has received more than anticipated in real estate taxes and delinquent tax revenue, so projected out through August there is no deficit.

Mr. Toney stated in June real estate taxes will be due again. Ms. Alexander stated yes and they have been accounted for in the cash flow analysis (May and June).

Ms. Barr asked about the **Court** amount of **\$9,199.20**, under **RECEIPTS**, if it was just for one month. Mrs. Ladd stated yes. Ms. Barr asked about **Police Aid**, under **RECEIPTS** in the amount of **\$35,041.00**. Mrs. Ladd advised that was a quarterly payment of 599 monies.

Ms. Barr stated under **EXPENDITURES** she sees the payment to American Disposal Service, which is the towns trash contractor, but she also sees check number 20420 to Mid-Atlantic Waste Systems. Ms. Barr stated her question is why would the town pay another waste system when the town has a contract with American Disposal.

Mrs. Ladd advised Ms. Barr that the payment to Mid-Atlantic was not for trash collection. Mr. J. Johnson advised Ms. Barr the payment to Mid-Atlantic was for repairs to the sweeper truck.

Ms. Barr stated she also noticed there were several different checks written to tax services. Mrs. Ladd stated the checks were to reimburse for overpayment of real estate taxes.

Ms. Alexander stated there is one thing she would like to bring to Councils attention, there was a CDAR that matured in the amount of \$212,993.53 and because of the towns cash flow condition she advised the Treasurer not to roll over the CDAR and the money has been put into the general fund account.

Ms. Alexander advised Council that putting some of that money back into a CD is an option, the shortest term for the CDAR was 13 weeks and she didn't want to commit to that term.

Mr. Brewer asked about the LGIP account and how liquid are the funds. Mrs. Ladd advised Mr. Brewer that the funds can be transferred next day.

Mr. Brewer recommended that the matured CDAR monies be placed in the LGIP account. Ms. Barr suggested that Council wait until they discuss the banking services, which on the agenda under **Closed Session**.

- f. Town Attorney's Report – Ms. Caturano stated her report was provided and stands prepared to answer any questions. There were no questions.

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AGENDA ITEMS (cont)

- 2. Consider Proposed Change to the Dumfries Town Charter, Article IX, Section 9.04 Other Taxes and Assessments** – Ms. Caturano stated the Council can make a motion to request the legislature make the change with the stipulation that the town is only requesting changes to allow for automobile personal property tax collection, or Council can wait until next Council meeting.

Mr. Toney asked if other towns in Prince William County collect personal property tax. Ms. Caturano stated Haymarket does. Mr. Toney asked how long has the Town of Haymarket collected this tax. Ms. Caturano stated she doesn't know.

Ms. Alexander stated she will call the Town of Haymarket tomorrow.

Mr. Brewer made a motion to go forward with the proposed change to the legislative body with language crafted by the Town Attorney for automobile personal property tax only, seconded by Ms. Barr.

Mrs. Cornell asked if they are going to wait until their next meeting. Mr. Brewer stated it would be too late. Ms. Barr stated if they wait until their next meeting they would have to wait until next year for the proposed change.

Mr. Toney stated the proposed change is not as urgent now as it once was – Council needs to allow citizens an opportunity to come and hear what the Council is proposing and how it is going to impact on them. Mr. Toney stated that is his thoughts and he hears what is being said about the time frame but he's not hearing that it's as urgent as it was at one point - the town is not looking at bankruptcy at this point are we? Ms. Alexander stated not in the next seven months.

Mr. Toney stated honestly he does like the language change, being specific, but he would like to see it in writing.

Mr. Brewer stated he just wants to let everybody know this is not an "end all - do all" type proposal, there will be a number of other public hearings providing it's even passed in General Assembly, there's a chance it could be turned down. Mr. Brewer stated but if the proposal passes General Assembly the town still would need to hold public hearings to set rates, etc.

Mr. Brewer stated this would just give the town the ability to collect what other towns are already collecting. Mr. Brewer stated he believes the town is wrong for not doing it because they're not serving their own needs, right now the citizens of the town are giving their money to the county, which in his opinion is not helping the town.

Vice-Mayor Washington asked for the vote on the motion.

Vote: ayes: Cornell, Barr, Brewer, Washington; nays: Toney; absent: Mayor Yohey, Councilor West, motion carried.

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Vice-Mayor Washington stated Council is getting ready to go into executive session but he would like to say Mrs. West is home sick this evening, the Mayor is home and doing much better and Donna is home recovering from her surgery, he would like to wish them all well.

Mr. Toney stated they all need to remember Haiti and what has happened there. Mr. Toney asked everyone to pray and give from their heart.

Mrs. Cornell stated we are fortunate to live in the United States and need to count our blessings. Mrs. Cornell stated she will definitely look at this change as far as the taxes that will be charged, because the town needs to look out for their senior citizens.

Ms. Barr stated she talked with several citizens and she can't believe they are not here tonight. Ms. Barr thanked the citizens who came out tonight and stated their comments and/or suggestions were taken into consideration toward this proposed charter change.

Mrs. Holtzlander stated in reference to the get well wishes she would like to send those to Mrs. Louis Waggy, who is home now recuperating and Mark Robinson who had surgery this week.

AGENDA ITEMS (cont)

3. Closed Session -

- a. RFP for Banking Services**
- b. Personnel**

Mr. Brewer moved to enter closed session to discuss the RFP for banking services and personnel, under Virginia Code § 2.2-3711A 1 and 6, seconded by Mrs. Cornell, all ayes, motion carried.

Minutes submitted by

Approved by

Retta Ladd, Dep Clk/Treasurer
Vice-Mayor

Clyde Washington,

Returned to open session, Mr. Brewer read the certification, seconded by Mrs. Cornell, all ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Toney moved to adjourn, seconded by Brewer, all ayes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04PM.

Minutes submitted by

Approved by

Kim Alexander, Town Manager
Mayor

Clyde Washington, Vice-